

what you read. If you can not, hand the facts you have gathered to the Missionary committee and ask them to present them to the society.

4. *Work.* Some Missionary committees seek to increase the general subscription list of the church. Others may seek to bring missionary boxes and barrels into the homes, first of the members of the society, and then of the whole congregation. These and others may be done by each society.

The League for Social Service

Dr. Josiah Strong, author of "Our Country," "The New Era," and "The Twentieth Century City," has organized, "The League for Social Service," the object of which is to increase general interest in such sociological questions as the Sabbath, Temperance, Social Purity, etc. Surely the object is a commendable and a much needed one. We can all pray God's blessings to rest upon Dr. Strong and his new organization.

From Other Sources

"Enlarge the place of thy tent, and let them stretch forth the curtains of thy habitation: spare not, lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes; for thou shalt break forth on the right hand and on the left; and thy seed shall inherit the Gentiles and make the desolate cities to be inhabited."

The current year is scarcely to be surpassed in events that mean much for humanity, take these five alone and endeavor to weigh their influence: (1) The czar's plea for the disarmament of the nations. (2) The changes and reforms in China brought about by the emperor. (3) The results of the Spanish-American war. (4) The bringing together of England and the United States in the closest sympathy, if not in formal league and co-operation. (5) The victory of the English army under Gen. Kitchener in Eastern Soudan, thus making certain the connection of the Cape of Good Hope with the mouth of the Nile, by railroad and telegraph, over which Christianity and civilization can be carried to the farthest limits of the "Dark Continent."

Giving vs. Getting

If giving were as systematic as getting the religious needs of the world would be easily met. Many give nothing; many their *spare change* and very few a specified amount. Most persons are putting aside a certain per centum of their income for food, clothing, housing and other so-called necessities. But how few reckon religion as one of the necessities? And yet these very persons, that never give religion even a passing thought, turn to it in time of personal sorrow and adversity.

Barnabas, Judas and Ananias are three standing types of Christian stewardship: Barnabas, who gave all he had. Ananias, who kept back a part, and Judas who stole all there was. Here is a eulogy for all those who like Barnabas place all at the Lord's disposal, a denunciation for those plutocrats that have smuggled the spirit of Judas into our age; and finally an apology for those

like Ananias that keep back part of the price. Perhaps these latter are not so blamable after all. They may be living up to the light they now have. Perhaps the rank and file of the church is composed largely of such persons. These people need to be aroused. They should be taught the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, and foremost the Christian doctrine of giving. The immense disparity between abilities and activities is one of the startling signs of the times. It is time that the church raise up a generation of givers for even now the irreligious world is laying the challenge of gifts at the door of the church.

WM. D. FURRY.

The Christian Life

PRAYER MEETING TOPICS

THE PROPHETS—ZECHARIAH. NO. 3

III. Messianic Prophecies.

1. In chapter 6:12 we have the first reference to the Messiah. "And speak unto him (Joshua the high priest,) saying, Thus speaketh the Lord of Hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is the *Branch*: and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the Lord." This spoken of the high priest, is clearly a reference of the Messiah thro the high priest, who was typical of Christ as our High Priest.

2. "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold Thy King cometh unto thee: he is just and having salvation; lowly and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass," Zech. 9:9. See on fulfillment Matt. 21:5 and John 12:15.

3. "And I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem, and the battle bow shall be cut off: and he shall speak peace unto the heathen: and his dominion shall be from sea even to sea and from the river (Euphrates) even to the ends of the earth," Zech. 9:10. Here we have one of those great prophecies which is now being fulfilled, but whose complete fulfillment is yet future. This is a wonderful missionary prophecy.

4. In chapter 10:4, speaking of Judah the prophet says, "Out of him shall come the corner-stone; out of him the staple, out of him the battle bow; out of him every governor together." See R. V.

5. In chapter 11:12, 13 occurs that notable prophecy concerning the price received by Judas for Christ's betrayal, which was the price of a slave. "So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prized at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord." On its fulfillment see Matt. 26:15.

6. "And they shall look upon me whom they have pierced," Zech. 12:10. See John 19:34, 37 and Rev. 1:7.

7. Chapter 13 opens with that wonderful prophecy concerning the Fountain of Cleans-

ing. "In that day (referring back to the day in which they shall look on the pierced one) there shall be a fountain opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and for uncleanness," Rev. 1:5; Heb. 9:14; I Peter 1:18, 19.

8. "Smite the shepherd and the sheep shall be scattered." I noted by Matthew (ch. 26:31) and Mark (ch. 14:27) as fulfilled by the very cowardice of the disciples of Christ. (a) How wonderful it all seems that these prophets, often when speaking of other events in Christ's life, and best of all saw with such cleanness and faith the character of the coming King of his Kingdom.

J. L. GILLIN.

SHORT SERMONS

Text: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings, as eagles; they shall run and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint.—Isa. 40:31.

"Up! up! UP!" exclaimed a young Christian with his latest, dying breath. He was only fulfilling in blessed experience the saying of the prophet. The wings were given him, and he was beginning to mount into the infinities and the splendors of the eternal life.

But before we may thus mount into the realities of the unseen world, there must be a spiritual mounting from the pit of sin and its condemnation, from the valley of unbelief and despair, up to the mountain tops and into the sunlight of the new life in Christ.

There are two of these eagle wings, faith and works; and both must be employed in unison, else there will be no mounting up.

And then again we must mount, not in the thin air of head knowledge, lest it fail to bear us, nor in the air of speculative curiosity, lest its dangerous currents carry us far from safety, nor in the cold air of self righteousness, lest we get a fatal chill; but in the warm, mellow, balmy air of charity, in the elevated currents of lofty purposes, and in the heavenly stratum of righteous practices.

Then again we must mount naturally; that is to say it must be, not merely an occasional experiment, so that for want of practice it comes awkward and laborious, but a frequent exercise, so that our pinions are made strong. Then may we sweep up grandly into the high places of spiritual contemplation, and peace, and joy.

Why should we mount? Because "our nest is on high." The eagle builds in the mountain tops. Heaven is his country. His treasures, his loved ones, and his heart is there. Therefore he mounts as eagles, for it is toward his home.

Those who do not mount are not eagles, but ravens, seeking only the carrion which the world affords.

Those who do mount get out of reach of earthly danger, out of range of the missiles of death, out of mists and clouds, into the region of everlasting sunlight, with its purer air and its glorious scenery, its entrancing and ever widening prospect. Oh ye who labor wearily along in the mire of sin, shake off that fatal clog, take the eagle wings of